



Haryana Government Gazette

Published by Authority

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No. 7] CHANDIGARH, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009 (MAGHA 28, 1930 SAKA)

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PART—I

Notifications, Orders and Declarations by Haryana Government

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT

The 30th January, 2009

No. 2351-SW(4)2008.—The Governor of Haryana is pleased to make the following scheme namely “Financial Assistance to the Non-School Going Disabled Children Scheme” which will come into force with effect from

1st December, 2008. This scheme incorporating the amendment made from time to time and shall be applicable throughout the State of Haryana.

DEFINITIONS

The Mentally Retarded Children who suffer from following conditions :—

- (1) Mental Retardation with I. Q. not exceeding 35.

2. AIM :

Presently Haryana Government is providing Financial Assistance in the form of scholarship to such disabled children of State who are below 18 years of age and are getting formal education in different schools, colleges, technical institutions and universities etc. and those disabled persons who are above 18 years of age are being provided financial assistance in the form of Handicapped Pension.

But there are some mentally retarded children in the age group of 0 to 18 years who are in the category of Profound and Severely retardation, who are not able to attend formal education, training etc. due to their disability. They are totally dependent on their parents or relatives and need constant supervision and care of their families. Some of them require nursery care also. These children because of their severity of M. R. are looked down upon in society and are also forced to live in deplorable and humiliating environment. Their Parents also some time find it difficult to look after them properly either due to financial difficulties or otherwise. Therefore it is felt imminent that in order to boost the morale of these children as well as provide support to their parents some financial assistance should be given to them for their welfare and respectful upbringing. Keeping this in view a scheme named "Financial Assistance to the Non-School going disabled Children" is conceived aiming at providing financial assistance to such parents who cannot send them for formal schooling and boarding of their disabled wards in the age group of below 18 years because of financial constraints or because of the returns of their Mental Retardation.

3. Eligibility : Eligibility conditions are as follows :—

- (i) A person having physical disability in the age-group of below 18 years shall be eligible for grant of Assistance.
- (ii) The applicant should be a domicile of Haryana State and should be residing in Haryana State for the last three years at the time of submission of application. He/She will have to submit domicile proof for this purpose issued by the competent authority.
- (iii) The applicant's close relatives and parents are not in a financial position to support him/her and the income of his/her parents, close relatives or his/her own income from all sources is less than the income as prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act, i. e. Rs. 3510/- p.m. as in 2008. He/She will have to submit proof of income verified by the competent authority.
- (iv) The assistance would not be given to such children who are already receiving assistance under the Scholarship, Unemployment Allowance and Handicapped Pension Schemes being implemented by the Social Justice and Empowerment Department, Haryana.
- (v) The applicant should have the following disabilities :—
 - (a) Mental Retardation with I. Q. not exceeding 35.

Medical Certificate duly issued by the Civil Surgeon will have to be produced for (i) to (v) above.

(b) The applicant shall submit proof regarding age of the ward/child in the form of :

- (i) Birth Certificate issued by the Registrar of Births and Death ; or
- (ii) Affidavit by the applicant attested from the First Class Magistrate;

OR

- (iii) A certificate from any Gazetted Officer of the State/Central Government.

4. Constitution of Committee for Scrutiny :

Committees will be constituted for scrutinizing the eligibility for grant of financial assistance in the rural and urban areas. In the rural areas, the Committee will consist of District Social Welfare Officer or his representative, Circle Revenue Officer and Medical Officer of Health Department. In the urban areas, the Committee will consist of Officer Incharge of the Municipal Committee or the Executive Officer or the Secretary of Municipal Committee and District Social Welfare Officer or his representative and a Medical Officer of Health Department.

5. Supervision and Coordination Committee :

A District Level Committee comprising of Civil Surgeon as a Member, District Social Welfare Officer as Member-Secretary and Deputy Commissioner of the District or his representative as Chairman will be constituted, for overall supervision, coordination and implementation of the Scheme in the District. District Social Welfare Officer will be the convener of the Committee. It will meet once every quarter to review the performance of the scheme.

6. Verification :

- (i) During its visit to the village/ward for the purpose of verification of fresh applicants Committee for Scrutiny may also ensure that no beneficiary eligible for assistance is left-out. For this purpose, all the beneficiaries will be required to present themselves before the Committee. Assistance to those persons who fail to present themselves before the Committee will not be considered. Financial Assistance will be sanctioned by the concerned District Social Welfare Officer on the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee.
- (ii) In those cases where Committee comes to a definite conclusion that a beneficiary is no longer eligible for assistance, the Committee will recommend to terminate the assistance of such beneficiaries and will send intimation to District Social Welfare Officer of such termination, for further necessary action. However, the committee shall exercise reasonable judgment to decide these cases. The District Social Welfare Officer shall intimate the fact of termination of assistance to the beneficiary. An appeal shall lie, within 3 months from the intimation of such termination to the District Level Committee against such termination of assistance. The decision of the District Level Committee shall be final and will not be subjected to any further investigation./appeal.
- (iii) In those cases where the beneficiary has not presented himself/her self before the Committee at the time of disbursement for two consecutive months and the Committee suspects the eligibility of a beneficiary, the Committee may recommend to District Social Welfare Officer to stop the further disbursement of assistance to such beneficiary. District Social Welfare Officer shall issue a notice to the

beneficiary asking him/her to show cause why his/her assistance should not be terminated. If the beneficiary fails to satisfy the District Social Welfare Officer regarding his/her continued eligibility of assistance, An appeal shall lie, within 3 month from the intimation of such termination to the District Level Committee against such termination of assistance. Otherwise, the assistance shall be resumed after the beneficiary satisfies the District Social Welfare Officer about his/her eligibility for assistance.

- (iv) Initially verification will be done village wise by the Committee for scrutiny. However, special verification may be done in case of complaints or as per decision of the Government from time to time.

7. Mode of payment :

- (a) Assistance shall be disbursed through the Panchayati Raj under the supervision of Block Development and Panchayat Officer or by any other means of payment to be decided by the Government from time to time. The financial assistance shall become payable from the 1st day of the month in which it is sanctioned.
- (b) The periodicity of payment of assistance shall be decided by Director, Social Justice and Empowerment from time to time.
- (c) No further payment shall be made if the acknowledgement of disbursement/payment has not been received for two consecutive installments.
- (d) The assistance which have remained unpaid for two consecutive installments or more shall be enquired into by the concerned District Social Welfare Officer who will take necessary action in this regard. Payees acknowledgement shall be recorded and kept under lock and key by the District Social Welfare Officer till the accounts have been audited by Accountant General, Haryana.
- (e) Handling cash payment to the disbursing officials shall be made, as far as possible, through bank drafts issued in favour of them.
- (f) All the un disbursed amount shall be received by the District Social Welfare Officer concerned. A proper record of such amounts shall be kept in a separate register. The undisbursed amount received back shall be taken in the cash book and the entire amount thus received shall be refundable by short drawal from subsequent assistance bill.
- (g) The Director Social Justice and Empowerment Haryana shall be over-all in charge of the " Financial Assistance to the Non-School Going Disabled Children Scheme" and necessary instructions in regard for proper enforcement and accounting procedure shall be issued by him/her from time to time.

Note :The payment of financial assistance shall be made to the parent/guardian of the disabled child who applies for the financial assistance in respect of his/her children/wards and not direct to the children.

8. Procedure for Making Application:

The application for Financial Assistance shall be submitted in the prescribed form which would be available with the District Social Welfare Officer or Director Social Justice and Empowerment Department, Haryana Chandigarh free of cost and can be submitted to the respective District Social Welfare Officer up to 10th day of every month.

9. Rate of Assistance:

Financial assistance shall be admissible under the scheme at the rate of Rs. 300/- per month to every disabled child in the family of the applicant. Every non-school going disabled child in a single family would be eligible for this assistance. Government will have the right to change the rate of assistance from time to time.

10. Power of Sanction:

The District Social Welfare Officer dealing with the scheme shall be the sanctioning authority who shall pass orders on each case on the basis of the spot verification conducted by the Committee for scrutiny or in case of complaint etc. Investigation Officer or any other official deputed for the purpose by the sanctioning authority. The decision of the Director Social Justice and Empowerment shall be final. The order passed by District Social Welfare Officer in each case shall be communicated to the applicant and the Accountant General, Haryana, Chandigarh.

11. Stoppage of Assistance :

- (i) Assistance shall be payable from the date of sanction till the beneficiary completes the age of 18 years. However the District Social Welfare Officer shall have the right to stop payment of assistance, if at any stage it is found that it was sanctioned on a wrong ground or false information or the condition for which the assistance was granted no longer existed.
- (ii) Assistance shall cease to be payable on the death of a beneficiary and if the grantee dies before receiving assistance for a particular period, the same shall also lapse.
- (iii) In case assistance is sanctioned on the basis of wrong information given by the applicant in his/her application form, the amount given would be recovered as arrears of land revenue. In case of deliberate wrong information the beneficiary shall be liable for prosecution.
- (iv) Assistance under this scheme shall not be liable to attachment under any court of law.
- (v) After attaining the age of 18 years, the beneficiary should automatically become eligible for handicapped pension.

12. Publicity :

Wide publicity measures will be adopted by way of publishing public notices and display advertisements in the leading newspapers, printing of folders and pamphlets, public notices at all District Social Welfare Offices and similar other public places, advertisement through District Public Relation Officers and by way of Munadi in the Rural and Urban Areas.

13. Implementation and Monitoring :

One Post of Investigator in each District/Headquarter shall be created on contract basis for best Implementation and Monitoring of Scheme.

14. Budget Head :

2235-Social Security and Welfare-02-Social Welfare 101-Welfare of Handicapped-Part I-State Plan Schemes (72) Financial Assistance to non-School going disabled children 09-Grant-in-Aid (new Scheme Plan 2008-09).